Complaint against Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

2620. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 996 replied on the 13th November, 1986 and state:

(a) whether the Secretary of the Ministry was called to represent its views in the case filed by some Journalists with the Press Council of India and the said complaint is still under the consideration of the Council; and

(b) what are the reasons for ignoring the notice of the Press Council of India by the Secretary of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The Press Council of India had requested the Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to appear before its Inquiry Committee either in person or through a duly authorised representative to adduce such relevant evidence, oral or documentary, and make such submissions as he may deem necessary in the complaint of the General Secretary Photo Journalists' Association of Bombay against the Government of India. The Deputy Principal Information Officer (Press Relations), Press Information Bureau, Government of India appeared on his behalf. The Council has not yet given a decision in this case.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of air defence gun

2621. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to produce a sophisticated air defence gun; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Defence Research and Development Organisation has undertaken a study project for design and development of a system which would meet the futuristic requirement of an Air Defence Gun System of the Army. It is premature to give more details at this stage.

Precious Stones, Jewellery and antiques recovered in raids

2622. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 17th February, 1987 wherein it has been stated that precious stones, jewellery and dozens of antiques were recovered by Income Tax authorities during raids in Jaipur;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any arrest has been made and action taken by Government against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, a search under section 132 of the Income-tax Act was conducted on 20.1.1987 to 22.1.87 at the premises of two Jewellers—Shri Radheyshyam Lashkari and Shri Sitaram Lashkari. The following *prima-facie* unaccounted assets, *inter alia* were seized:—

	Rs. in lakhs
Cash	8.69
Jewellery	39.00
Precious and semi- precious stones	9.74

There is no provision for arrest in the Income-tax Act, 1961 for suspected evasion of tax.

Indo-Swiss pact on deposit detail

2623. SHRI M. KADHARSHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approached the Swiss Government for an Indo-Swiss pact on deposit details;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether in an interview published in Indo-European Affairs the Swiss Ambassador in Delhi said that such agreement will create a problem of precedence; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, the questions do not arise.

Conference of Chief Secretaries for administrative reforms

2624. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the administrative reforms evolved in the Conference of Chief Secretaries of the States held on 16th February 1987; and

(b) what are the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) In the context of administrative reforms some of the salient points made in the Conference were as follows:—

(i) It is important that the available resources are utilised mainly for investment in genuine development areas and not diluted by adoption of *adhoc* or populist schemes. It is also necessary that continuous attention is given to adoption of such new technology as would give higher results at lower costs.

(ii) Steps towards revitalising the Panchayati Raj institutions be taken with determination and speed. This shall involve regular elections to these bodies, adequate devolution of resources etc.

(iii) As in the Centre, the States shall also devise and establish a suitable nodal agency to monitor the machinery at different levels to redress public grievances and to take steps to strengthen the same.

(iv) The States shall cooperate in setting up of the special/exclusive courts for speedy trial of cases filed by CBI and the States anti-corruption agencies.

(v) The Central Government offered to make the Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal located in a State as a common Tribunal for dealing with cases of both Central and State Government employees, on a cost-sharing basis.

(vi) The system of reviews at the district level by Committee headed by the District Judge should be revived and stabilised in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court.

(vii) The system of inspections by supervising officers shall be further strengthened. It shall also be ensured that there is effective touring by officers at differnt levels.

(viii) The training of police personnel should be reoriented to cope with the change pattern of violence and new threats to Law and Order. Training should impart new skills